

No. 40

The Elkhorn District Advocate, Weekly.
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F. J. GREENSTREET, EDITOR.
VOL. I. No. 40.
THURSDAY, JULY 24th, 1902.

RAIN AND DROUGHT.
When our department of the natural world manifests a deficiency it is usually characterized by an over supply in another direction. As far back in the ages as the Pharaohs, we find recorded in Holy Writ the story of seven years of famine. In the present age the same important fact is manifest. In the winter of 1891-92 we read in the papers harrowing accounts of the sufferings of the people of Russia through the failure of their previous harvest, yet we had an over supply of thousands of bushels of grain in this country and Dakota, left rotting in the sun, rain and snow. During the latter very severe winter we experienced a more liberal supply of snow than usual. About sixty inches of snow was registered in certain parts of Manitoba, and it is interesting to note the appreciable difference in other parts of the world, for while we in this country, were thus experiencing an extraordinary amount of frozen rain, in the Alpine regions of Switzerland, strange to relate, where they have been heavily snowed in large quantities, during the late winter they have suffered a comparative immunity from snow, and had an experience such as the oldest inhabitant amongst them have not witnessed before. They had not enough snow for sleighing and had to depend upon wheeling all winter. And now as another evidence of this interesting fact we find in contrast to the unusually heavy rains that we have been blessed with this year, England has had a corresponding drought. According to recent despatches from Home, an agricultural town on the North Sea, the severe drought which has been a source of dismay to the farmers, is now beginning to affect the interests of other portions of the community. Some of the large towns have already been put on short supply of water, and in such vast corporations as London and Liverpool, though not at present suffering, the prospect of a continued drought are becoming ominous. The heat in some of the midland counties has been uncommonly great, the barometrical reading often reaching as high as 29.5 to 30. Since the beginning of March there has not been in the district of the Metropolis very little rain than an inch of rain, which during the month of June has not exceeded one tenth of an inch, which is a smaller amount of rainfall than has been recorded in any similar period of time. The present spell already extends 111 days or nearly twice as long as any period since 1805. This will undoubtedly have a detrimental effect upon the farming industry, especially the hay crop as it is largely dependent upon the rains of April and May, while the crops are endangered if the drought continues. The growers are consequently much embarrassed to keep the stock from starving, which has resulted in a very large reduction of stock, causing a glut upon the market, and a consequent reduction of price. We all know what grumblers the English tenant farmers are, and frequently we hear of them saying it is difficult to conjecture their lot in this condition of things continued. But one of the off set to this is that if their whole farm stock, and grain crop should prove a failure, which is more unusual than in this country, the resources of her colonies are such as can cope with the difficulty and avert the fate of the despoiled Russians of two years ago.

It is a short sighted policy which induces people to buy from agents and travelling vendors articles which home merchants have taken pains to supply in all necessary quantities at reasonable rates. Such peripatetic dealers cannot be looked to for any enterprise or benefit to the town, nor for help in carrying the necessary burdens that fall upon all. They are much more liable than home dealers to carry shoddy and to use deception in sale, and the buyers are usually without remedy when deceived. It is a short sighted policy that does not always give home producers a reasonable preference in making purchases.—Currier Express.

WALLACE COUNCIL.
Council of Wallace met at Elkhorn, July 15th, 1902. Present: Reeve in the chair, and all the Councillors. Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Various letters from E. Wood, and the replies thereto by the Reeve were read.
Report from committee consisting of the Reeve and Councillor Joslin was read, reporting the purchase of 15 acres for roadway near Gopher creek from the executors of the estate of Mayhew.
General accounts were read and referred to Finance Committee.
Petitions from John Johnson and 11 others for a grant for road between Sections 1 and 5, due north through T.p. 11, R. 25, 1 mile west of Elkhorn.
Petition from Geo. Jackson and 17 others for a grant of \$250 to be expended on a crossing in Taylor, Sec. 21, T.p. 10, R. 24.
The Finance Committee recommended the following accounts to be paid:
Geo. Jackson, T.p. 10, R. 24, Sec. 21, \$250.00
J. H. Angus, Three months salary, \$30.00
A. C. H. Angus, Three months salary, \$30.00
G. H. Fraser-Cheque to J. S. Siple, \$1.25
W. F. Searth, \$1.25
A. Woolhouse, Stationery, \$1.25
W. J. Kennedy & Co. Bk. on order \$12.00
W. A. Dwyer, P. L. S., \$10.00
Sec. Treas. Election expenses, \$12.00
D. H. McMillan, 2012 days work with grader, \$14.00
H. L. Moore, Am't of cheque on Commercial Bank No. 304, \$2.00
John Siple for cheque No. 304, Commercial Bank, \$2.00
John Siple, Work on grader, \$2.00
Mr. McLeod repairs on grader, \$7.15
Cous. Joslin, Ward J. Lodenity, \$1.50
Wesley Land, \$1.50
Wm. Wood, \$1.50
W. Whiteford, \$1.50
R. Turnbull, \$1.50
G. Freeman, \$1.50
Moved by Wm. Wood seconded by W. Whiteford that the report of Finance Committee be adopted and Treasurer issue cheque for the amounts as soon as funds are available.
The report of returning officer showing the vote on the mill bonus held 24th June at Elkhorn, to have been carried as follows, viz:
For the bonus, 114.
Against, Spoiled ballots 5.
By Law No. 133, the mill bonus was then read a third time and passed: Councillors went into Committee of the whole. Councillor Whiteford in the chair, read By-Laws No. 140 and 147 a first and second time, Reeve in chair read a third time and passed.
Whiteford-Joslin-Whereas it has been published in the newspapers that anxious weeds are growing in Wallace and the same action is taken in the matter by the proper officers, any party aware of the existence of such weeds are requested to notify any member of Wallace Council, when the matter will be properly attended to—Carried.
Turnbull-Whiteford-That the rules of the Council be suspended to allow a grader being made to grade the roads running east and west between wards 3 and 6, and 4 and 5—Carried.
Freeman-Wood-Letters to the Reeve from the Chief Clerk of the Municipal Commission and the replies made to the same having been read to the Council we heartily approve of and confirm his (the Reeve's) answers to the said letters from E. Wood, chief clerk, and he is requested to deliver the letter of the Municipal Commission's chief clerk, and inform him that we are not in a position to pay the salaries at present, and we think if Mr. Wood had sent a detailed statement of salaries and expenditures, it would have verified his statements. If correct, we would have been the best proof of his willingness to furnish the same—Carried.
That Councillors Turnbull and Whiteford be authorized in the event of any grader working in the eastern portion and making up the statute labor before another meeting of Council to hire teams and work said grader westward from the point where the townline intersects the main road leading north from Virden; and that the Western Councillors be authorized to act similar on the townline leading eastward from Elkhorn.
The Committee on Public Works having examined the various petitions re grants from general fund, would recommend that the following grants be made, on the road allowance between Sec. 23 and 24, T.p. 11, Range 25, \$10.00. And that a grant of \$10.00 be made to road between Sec. 1 and 5, T.p. 11, Range 25, running due north to one mile west of Elkhorn, and that Councillor Wood be appointed to see that the money is properly expended. They would also recommend that the Committee appointed to purchase land for a road to the bridge over Gopher creek, be authorized to take the necessary steps to sell the land not required for a road, and also the road allowance adjoining.
That a grant of \$25.00 be made to Councillor Joslin to be used between Sec. 21 and 22, T.p. 10, R. 24, and also the banks for the next bridge north.
Council adjourned to meet at Elkhorn on Saturday, 27th July.

BROADVIEW, Ass. July 9.—On Tuesday of last week an accident happened to Mr. John S. Hodson, which resulted fatally to-day. Mr. Hodson was engaged repairing the stall in which his cow was standing, and was in the act of pulling out a loose board when one of the horses reared up striking Mr. Hodson, who fell under the horse, and before he could recover himself he was kicked several times by the frightened animal. When assistance arrived he was found to be in a very bad condition, and he died after a short illness. On examination by Dr. Allanhan several ribs were found to have been broken, besides other internal injuries. Every effort was made by the doctor and kind friends to save his life, but in vain. After a week of terrible suffering death resulted to-day. Mr. Hodson was quite a young man, and very popular. The sympathies of the entire community goes to the deceased's relatives. Mrs. Hodson, mother of the deceased, who resides in London, Eng., was here during the greater part of last summer visiting her two sons.

A DAY IN VIRDEN, OR THE COUNTRY COOK'S VISIT TO HIS TOWN.
By a friend of the Advocate.
(Continued from last week.)
Our next visit was to
MR. SAIL'S BRICKYARD,
which we found to be quite a hive of industry. It is situated about a mile and a half out of town, and is now in full blast. The process of brickmaking does not appear to be a very elaborate one, one individual digs it into a cart, which is drawn away to the grader, made pliable during the morning by supplies of water, after leaving the mill it is received into a mould, a box of about half a dozen at a time and barrowed away as fast as three or four men can wheel them. They are then laid out singly to dry for three or four days, then piled in a row for another day or two, and then stacked for another three or four days, after which they are ready for use. On an average from ten to twenty thousand bricks can be moulded per day, and they have already turned out 350,000 bricks, and are now fast at it. The supply abreast of the demand. The bricks are claimed to be superior to the Brandon bricks and about half the cost, and hopes are entertained that eventually they will equal, if not surpass, those manufactured in Winnipeg.
Our next visit was to the
Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION,
which was in Session in the Presbyterian church, and was much more than a religious gathering, and attributed the lack of interest to the fact that the young men of Virden had other time over to Elkhorn, and a visit to the town.

However, as the two religious societies exhibited their views of improvement, in the matter of attendance, while the address of the day was the mysterious death of the man Greaver, and the examination of the boy Hili, obtained a crowded house, it was self-evident that the people were neither absent or too busy. However, the meetings were interesting and profitable to the favored few. Mr. Brown, of Ohio, a "silver mounted veteran" in Association work, gave some very instructive and able Bible readings, and interesting discussions on Y. M. C. A. work, generally and particularly, were conducted, with spirit and animation by those present, and it was made very evident that although the churches are catering to the social and religious requirements of the young men of our country, especially those of larger growth, more perhaps in the nineteenth century than ever before in the history of the church, these associations are a connecting link between the homes of young men far away from home influences and enlightenment and the church. The object of these Conventions is not so much to reap the harvest as to sow the seed and prepare the way for the great endings that may have but small endings.
In the evening Mr. Brown delivered a very able and interesting lecture on "The Rocks and Boulders of this Continent." When it is stated that the able lecturer is a personal friend of one of the greatest geological authorities on the American continent, it is needless to add that the lecture was a most interesting one, and facts were made known and logical deductions made that were not only new to us, but truly wonderful in their character. But alas! as is often the case, the shadow was preferred to the substance, for instead of there being the high ground of geological science that were brought together at the excitement of the lecture, the numbers could almost be counted on the fingers, and reminded us of the story told by the Rev. H. P. Dwyer, editor of "The Free Press," who on a similar occasion, related the story of the lecturing tour of Mr. M. Stanley on his first return from his African explorations. He brought back with him a native of the "Dark Continent" and exhibited him at the close of lecture. The native became so impatient for the close of Stanley's lecture, so they could witness the crude manner and comical antics and gestures of the little African boy, that he became so disgusted as to cut short his lecturing tour. On our return we observed the ruins of the
THE CREMATED CRIST ALLEY,
which in wild confusion adorns the vicinity of the railway depot, which in addition to the ruins of the cremated elevator may probably give the visitors of Manitoba who pass through Virden in the after, a rather uncomplimentary opinion of the fireproof character of the enterprising town.

THE NATURAL SCENERY.
The landscape around Virden, especially to the east, gives the town an additional attraction to Elkhorn, for while east, west, north and south, we find nothing but prairie. If in the future and distant future, the town becomes more extensive and necessities arise for the formation of a park no unsurpassable difficulties are in the way of a park being arranged for as the presence of these trees in and around afford ample scope for a public park without much cost, and at no great distance from town. This fact alone should teach us the benefits arising from Arbor Day. There is no reason why Elkhorn should not become more picturesque by a massing of trees, and this naturally observed day is utilized for the good purpose to which it was intended, and every property owner made it a custom to plant two or three trees each year, there is no reason whatever why the monotony of prairie scenery should not be relieved, and a degree of the natural scenery of olden eastern countries be introduced to our western prairie life, so that eventually instead of having to go six miles out of town to find a picnic, we might enjoy the privilege of a picnic with as little difficulty as Virden by just stepping out of our house, or at least by having it in close proximity to the town.

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A Tale of a Caravan.

accumulation, doubtless, of many years. All at once his eye fell upon a large canvas bag, rotten with age, and gaping open. It was as full as it could hold of pieces of gold, bearing—the superscription of the mint of Ramin.

However, the next day passed and the next again, and there was no sign of Matt. He began to think the child had taken offense, and that he would have to seek her in her own home, when her opportune appearance prevented the journey. He was taking his breakfast one morning inside the Caravan, when

Suddenly an idea struck him. "I think I'll pay a domiciliary visit to Mr. Monk," he said. "I can meet him now on pretty equal terms. If I hint a few things to him the amiable gentleman may think of becoming just."

He called up Tim and sent him on

This is a return of all the premiums paid, and interest on the same at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

For further particulars apply to Gerald F. Brophy, General Manager, 15 McIntyre Block, Winnipeg.

LEMENTS.
WINNIPEG, MAN.

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